# AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Docket No.: 2006-1476A

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application.

# **Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) Organic acid anion containing aluminum salt hydroxide particles represented by the following general formula (I):

 $M_a[Al_{1-x}M'_x]_bA_zB_y(OH)_n \cdot mH_2O$  (I) (wherein M is at least one cation selected from the group consisting of Na<sup>+</sup>, K<sup>+</sup>[[,]] and NH<sup>4+</sup> and H<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup>, M' is at least one metal cation selected from the group consisting of Cu<sup>2+</sup>, Zn<sup>2+</sup>, Ni<sup>2+</sup>, Sn<sup>4+</sup>, Zr<sup>4+</sup>, Fe<sup>2+</sup>, Fe<sup>3+</sup> and Ti<sup>4+</sup>, A is at least one organic acid anion based on an organic acid selected from the group consisting of (i) an organic carboxylic acid having 2 to 10 carbon atoms and 1 to 4 carboxyl groups and (ii) an organic oxycarboxylic acid having 2 to 10 carbon atoms and 1 to 4 carboxyl groups, B is at least one inorganic acid anion selected from the group consisting of a sulfate ion, a phosphate ion and a nitrate ion, and a, b, m, n, x, y and z satisfy 0.7  $\leq$  a  $\leq$  1.35, 2.7  $\leq$  b  $\leq$  3.3, 0  $\leq$  m  $\leq$  5, 4  $\leq$  n  $\leq$  7, 0  $\leq$  x  $\leq$  0.6, 1.7  $\leq$  y  $\leq$  2.4, and 0.001  $\leq$  z  $\leq$  0.5, respectively.)

- 2. (Original) The particles according to claim 1, which are represented by the formula (I) wherein a satisfies  $0.9 \le a \le 1.2$ .
- 3. (Original) The particles according to claim 1, which are represented by the formula (I) wherein b satisfies  $2.8 \le b \le 3.2$ .
- 4. (Original) The particles according to claim 1, which are represented by the formula (I) wherein m satisfies  $0 \le m \le 2$ .

5. (Original) The particles according to claim 1, which are represented by the formula (I) wherein n satisfies  $5 \le n \le 6.5$ .

Docket No.: 2006-1476A

- 6. (Original) The particles according to claim 1, which are represented by the formula (I) wherein x satisfies  $0 \le x \le 0.3$ .
- 7. (Original) The particles according to claim 1, which are represented by the formula (I) wherein y satisfies  $1.8 \le y \le 2.2$ .
- 8. (Original) The particles according to claim 1, which are represented by the formula (I) wherein z satisfies  $0.01 \le z \le 0.4$ .
- 9. (Previously Presented) The particles according to claim 1, wherein the organic acid anion (A) in the formula (I) is at least one selected from anions based on an oxalic acid, a citric acid, a citrate, a tartaric acid, a tartrate, a DL-malic acid, a gallic acid, a DL-glyceric acid and an L-lactic acid.

## 10-12. (Cancelled)

- 13. (Original) The particles according to claim 1, wherein  $D_{25}$  and  $D_{75}$  satisfy  $1 < D_{75}/D_{25}$  < 1.8 when particle diameters at 25% and 75% values of cumulative particle size distribution curve measured by a laser diffraction method are represented by  $D_{25}$  and  $D_{75}$ , respectively.
- 14. (Original) The particles according to claim 1, which are in the shape of grains, pairs, rectangular parallelepiped, disks (go stones), hexagonal plates, rice grains or cylinders.
- 15. (Original) The particles according to claim 1, having an average particle diameter of 0.1 to 10  $\mu m$ .

3 MRD/PDP/kh

- 16. (Withdrawn) A burned product obtained by burning the organic acid anion containing aluminum salt hydroxide particles of claim 1 at 300 to 1,000°C.
- 17. (Original) The particles according to claim 1, which carry a hydrolysate of a salt of at least one metal selected from the group consisting of Cu, Zn, Ni, Sn, Zr, Fe and Ti, on the surfaces thereof.
- 18. (Withdrawn) The alunite type compound particles of claim 1, having surfaces thereof treated with at least one surface treating agent selected from the group consisting of a higher fatty acid, an anionic surfactant, a phosphoric ester, a coupling agent and an ester of a polyhydric alcohol and a fatty acid.

#### 19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 30, wherein the inorganic salt is aluminum sulfate.

## 21-23. (Cancelled)

- 24. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 30, wherein the heating reaction is carried out at 90 to 250°C.
- 25. (Withdrawn) A resin additive comprising the organic acid anion containing aluminum salt hydroxide particles of claim 1.
  - 26. (Withdrawn) A resin composition containing the resin additive of claim 25.
- 27. (Withdrawn) An adsorbent composition containing the organic acid anion containing aluminum salt hydroxide particles of claim 1.

4 MRD/PDP/kh

28. (Withdrawn) A dye carrier containing the organic acid anion containing aluminum salt hydroxide particles of claim 1.

Docket No.: 2006-1476A

- 29. (Withdrawn) An ultraviolet absorber containing the organic acid anion containing aluminum salt hydroxide particles of claim 1.
- 30. (Currently Amended) A method for producing organic acid anion containing aluminum salt hydroxide particles of claim 1, which comprises adding an alkali hydroxide solution a solution of a hydroxide of an ion selected from the group consisting of Na<sup>+</sup>, K<sup>+</sup>[[,]] and NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> and H<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup> to a mixed solution comprising an organic acid or organic acid salt selected from the group consisting of (i) an organic carboxylic acid having 2 to 10 carbon atoms and 1 to 4 carboxyl groups, (ii) an organic oxycarboxylic acid having 2 to 10 carbon atoms and 1 to 4 carboxyl groups, and (iii) salts thereof, an inorganic salt of Al<sup>3+</sup> selected from the group consisting of an aluminum sulfate, an aluminum phosphate and an aluminum nitrate, and a sulfate or nitrate of at least one member selected from the group consisting of Na<sup>+</sup>, K<sup>+</sup>[[,]] and NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> and H<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup> to cause a heating reaction and produce the organic acid anion containing aluminum salt hydroxide particles of claim 1.
- 31. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 30, wherein the mixed solution further comprises an inorganic salt of at least one cation selected from the group consisting of Cu<sup>2+</sup>, Zn<sup>2+</sup>, Ni<sup>2+</sup>, Sn<sup>4+</sup>, Zr<sup>4+</sup>, Fe<sup>2+</sup>, Fe<sup>3+</sup> and Ti<sup>4+</sup>.

## 32-35. (Cancelled)

**36.** (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 31, wherein the heating reaction is carried out at 90 to 250°C.